



Mayor Thomas P. Ryan, center, acknowledges Spina Bifida Month with a proclamation presented to members of the local chapter. From left, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gagner and daughter, Frankie Jo; Maxine Childress-Brown; Mayor Ryan; Mr. and Mrs. David Peek and daughter, Kelli; Mrs. Nancy Gullen, chapter president.

## Rochester Spina Bifida Chapter Plans Dinner

President Ronald Reagan has declared October as National Spina Bifida Month. According to a press release from the national Spina

Bifida Association, the joint congressional resolution commemorating the month was signed by the President Sept. 24 "to increase public

awareness of the birth defect."

On the local level, the Greater Rochester Spina Bifida Association will present Dr. Rosalyn Benjamin Darling of Johnstown, Pa., as guest speaker at the 12th annual Appreciation Dinner on Friday, Oct. 26, at the Burgundy Basin Inn.

Dr. Darling, a medical sociologist, is director of In-Home Services at the City-County Clinic in Johnstown, and is a member of the Professional Advisory Committee of the Spina Bifida Association of America. She has authored numerous books and articles on the sociology of birth defects.

According to area co-chairpersons Martin and Nancy Gullen of Penfield, guests will include Dr. Margaret T. Colgan, director of Ambulatory Pediatrics and the Birth Defects Center at the University of Rochester Medical Center; Assemblywoman Pinny Cooke, 132nd District; George H. Gieselman, executive director of the Rochester Rehabilitation Center; Father James M. Moynihan, chairman of the diocesan Priests Council; and Ms. Nancy Murphy, executive director of the Easter Seal Society of Monroe County.

Also on the dais will be Ms. Netty Pender, a teenager with Spina Bifida and member of the Rochester Rookies wheelchair sports team; Dr. James W. Sayre, president of the Pediatric Medical Society of Monroe County; Thomas P. Riley, president of Blue Cross/Blue Shield; and Ms. Karen Yaniga, director of Special Education Instruction of the City School District.

According to a press release from the local chapter, the evening will carry the theme "Support Begins with You." Awards will be presented to individuals and groups which "have rendered outstanding cooperation and support for the objectives of the Spina Bifida Association" during the past year.

Highlighting the awards is the annual presentation of the Beimler Award, presented to a chapter member whose efforts "have distinguished them as contributing the most meaningful results in the advancement of the association's programs," according to the release.

Tickets are \$8 and can be obtained by calling Mrs. Peggy Neufeglise at 889-3947. The public is invited to attend.

Sarah Child



All in the Family

### How to Say Momma Mia In Chinese?

A recent feature story in the New York Times reported a swelling undercurrent of nostalgia for the "basic" American foods of earlier generations. Such prime examples as pot roast, fried chicken and apple pie were mentioned.

One food writer calls such dishes "Momma food" -- items that comfort, soothe and bring back the memory of nurturing parents. Aprons in place, they presided over warm, homey kitchens redolent with flavors that not only titillated our appetites but told us all was well, that the world would not crumble, at least not that night.

I know all about momma food. It nourished and sustained me my first 20 years and the memories of it thereafter offered warmth and comfort particularly at times when the fates were being less than kind.

My mother equated food with love. An Italian-American woman who was neither round, nor short, nor even colorfully frumpy as the TV commercials like to portray them, she excelled at many things besides cooking, but it was that talent which I appreciated most and which I remember best.

And of all the momma foods, it was her bread that I loved most. In addition to all of us, her young brother and sister stayed with us in order to attend high school in town. Twice a week Mom was up at 5:30 to begin her bread-baking, an all-day chore which produced 16 loaves twice a week. At lunchtime, we children were sent home from school and on baking day,

Mom would sometimes pinch off a good-sized piece of the rising dough, shape it into a circle, fry it until it was golden brown, then spread it with butter or sprinkle it with sugar or cover it with maple syrup.

After a lunch like that, the mile back to school in subfreezing temperatures was a snap.

The finished loaves of bread were large, brown and crusty outside, fine-textured inside. After school, we begged the special treat of a heel or end spread with more butter and topped with homemade strawberry jam.

A variation on the bread was a pan of rolls, feather-light, ambrosial. And on holidays she would make from a sweeter, richer dough, cinnamon rolls or sticky pecan buns, the latter a medley of melted brown sugar glaze encrusted with nuts that drove us wild. I could always count on finding a pan of them on visits home from college. Even today, the smell of cinnamon and brown sugar baking is enough to send me into a swoon.

There were other momma foods. Dishes such as beef stew, potato salad, lemon meringue and blackberry pies, tapioca and rice and bread puddings are enshrined forever in my memory. Sadly, no one, least of all me, makes them like Momma did.

In a nostalgic haze, I sat down at our supper table the other night and asked our two younger children what dishes they would best remember when they grew up.

Our son had no answer but the youngest was quick to reply.

"Crabs ragoon," she offered, the speciality of her favorite Chinese restaurant.

## Holy Family Winds Up Sesquicentennial Year

Auburn — Holy Family Church, celebrating this year its 150th anniversary of founding, will culminate its jubilee festivities the last two Sundays of this month.

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will celebrate a Jubilee Mass, 11 a.m., Sunday, Oct. 21 at the church. Following the rites, Bishop Clark will be feted at a reception in his honor in the parish center.

The following Sunday, the parish will gather for a dinner-dance, 7 p.m., at the Holiday Inn.

The guest speaker on that occasion will be Father John E. Brooks SJ, president of the College of the Holy Cross, Bishop Clark's alma mater.

A physicist, mathematician, and theologian, Father Brooks has been president of the school since 1970.

## St. Anne's Parish to Host Regional Charismatic Mass

Palmyra — St. Anne's Church here will host a Mass sponsored by the charismatic prayer groups in the Yates/Ontario/Wayne Region 7:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 26.

Father James Connolly SJ, diocesan liaison to the Catholic Charismatic Renewal, will preside at the rites.

According to Rita Goebert of St. Anne's, the event will afford "an opportunity for folks curious about what a Charismatic celebration is like, to taste and see the joy and love that is present when folks join together to praise the Lord and love one another in Christ's name."

Those wishing to attend

**Advisory**  
Correspondents are advised the Courier-Journal is restricted by law from publishing any notice of games of chance, the prizes won in such games or the winners of such prizes.

from Rochester or the Southern Tier were provided the following directions to the church: "(From Rochester) East on Rt. 31 to Palmyra; turn left at the four corners with the four churches. We are the second church on the right side of Church Street. (From Canandaigua and points

south) Rt. 21 to Palmyra. At the four corners, cross Main Street and we are the second church on the right side of Church Street."

A reception will follow the Mass in the Church hall.

Further information on the event is obtained by calling Russ and Rita Goebert, (315) 597-5365.

## Nursing Alumnae Slate Fall Dinner

The St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing Alumnae Association will hold its annual fall dinner meeting, 6:30 p.m., Nov. 14 at the Wishing Well Restaurant, 1190 Chili Ave.

The speaker for the evening is Carolyn M. Vacanti, vice president of patient care and nursing at the hospital. She will speak on "The Changing Scene in Health

Care; Reimbursement of Health Care Services."

Preceding the dinner, a memorial Mass for deceased alumnae will be celebrated by Father Robert J. Donovan, 6 p.m. at St. Helen's Church.

Reservations for the event are made by calling Ruth Courtney, 247-2963; or Gloria Campbell, 482-0035 before Nov. 2.

### BLESSED ARE THOSE WHO HAVE NOT SEEN AND YET BELIEVE . . .

Like the poor and homeless touched by this native sister in India, those who do not know Jesus and His Gospel long for comfort and hope.

Today's mission Church reaches out, drawing them into the embrace of His love and His Church.

Those who do not know Christ do not need to see Him as Thomas did. But, as St. Paul wrote, "How can they believe if they have not heard?"

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